

Remarks

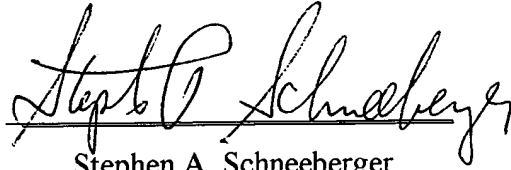
Claims 1-10 and 12 -18 were pending in the application, claim 11 having been previously cancelled. The apparatus invention of claims 1-9 had been previously non-elected and withdrawn as the result of a restriction requirement. Non-elected claims 1-9 are canceled herewith without prejudice. Claim 10 is amended herewith to include the limitations of prior dependent claim 12 and in turn, prior dependent claim 16, both of which dependent claims are then canceled herewith. Claim 13 is amended to depend from claim 10. Dependent claim 17 is also canceled herewith. Claims 10, 13-15, and 18 remain pending in the application.

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of June 23, 2004 in which claim 18 was allowed, claims 10 and 13-17 were under Final Rejection, and claim 12 was objected to. Applicants appreciate the indication of allowability of claim 18 and the potential allowability of claim 10 if it includes the limitations of claim 12 and included claim 16. As noted in the preceding paragraph, claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of former claims 12 and 16 and thus should render that claim allowable. Non-elected claims 1-9 have been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, all of the claims remaining in the application are now in allowable form, and favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. In the event any issue remains that the Examiner feels might be resolved by further discussion, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact applicants' attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Tianli Zhu, et al

By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steph A Schneeberger", written over a horizontal line.

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